

Amendments to the Specification

Please cancel the amendment previously requested in the Reply mailed March 5, 2004, to the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 12, and ending on page 9, line 14.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 12, and ending on page 9, line 14, by the following amended paragraph.

10 The polymeric thickener should be used in an amount sufficient to thicken the composition to the desired thickness, in general 0.1 to 12% by weight based on the oil, for example 2-10% by weight based on the composition. The amount of the polymeric thickener preferably used varies with the application. It is usually unnecessary to use more than 10% of the total composition, e.g. 3-10%, and smaller amounts such as 3 to 7%, for example about 5%, are often effective.

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Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 9, line 25 (with the words "the new polymers..."), and ends on page 10, line 7 (with the words "... hair care compositions."), by the following amended paragraph.

20 The new polymeric thickeners are useful for thickening a wide variety of compositions. The compositions can be free of water or can be water-in-oil emulsions. The invention is particularly useful for cosmetic (including hair care) personal care compositions, i.e. compositions which, as defined in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, are intended to be "rubbed, poured, sprinkled, sprayed
25 on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body... for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance". Such compositions can for example be in the form of varnishes, gels, sticks, oil-in-water creams, water-in-oil creams, and thickened oil products with or without water. Specific examples of such compositions include, but are for example
30 cosmetics, toiletries, and cleansers, including but not limited to lipsticks, deodorant sticks, nail varnishes, pretanning lotions, sunscreen lotions, sun tan

lotions, after-sun lotions, creams, gels and oils, including sun creams, protective hand creams, night renewal creams, body milks and lotions, light facial ~~creams~~ cream, protective day ~~creams~~ cream, liquid moisturizing emulsions, ~~hairdressing preparations (including hair-treating oils, shampoos, after-shampoo~~

5 compositions, products for rinsing to be applied before or after shampooing, before or after dyeing or bleaching, before or after permanent-waving or hair straightening, as a hair-setting or blow-drying composition, as a restructuring composition, or as a support for permanent-waving or for dyeing or bleaching hair), foam baths, bath oils, skin cleansers, skin foundations mascaras, eye

10 makeups ~~oil-in-water creams and water-in-oil creams, as well as thickened oil products with or without water, makeup removers~~ products designed to assist in removing other cosmetic ~~compositions, makeup or personal care products.~~ The cosmetic compositions can contain conventional additives for cosmetic compositions, including but not limited to fragrances, sun screen agents,

15 colorants, pigments, silicones, deodorants and antiseptic agents. However, the invention is also useful in other contexts, for example in paints, film-forming compositions, inks, and compositions carrying active ingredients such as UV absorbers, fragrances, biocides, antimicrobial agents, germicides, antioxidants, preservatives, disinfectants, enzymes, nutrients, minerals, and drugs (including

20 pharmaceuticals which are active physiologically or pharmacologically, either topically or systemically). Compositions containing a thickener containing an ammonium salt are likely to be useful in certain types of hair care compositions.